

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1951.

P U B L I C H E A L T H D E P A R T M E N T

S T A F F,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Dr. John Rigby, M.B. Ch.B D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

R.H. Grayson. Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

R. Potts. Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

F.C. Ryding. Cert R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

In addition the Department has a full-time junior clerk (female)

A Rodent Operator (Part-time) is also employed.

Outside staff is engaged on Scavenging.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
GILLIBRAND STREET,
CHORLEY, LANCS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for the year 1951.

AREA.

There was no change in the District during the year, the area is 41,114 acres, this figure is 3 acres more than stated last year and is due to an adjustment made some time ago.

The District encircles the Municipal Borough of Chorley, and is bounded on the North by Walton-le-Dale U.D. Leyland U.D. and Preston R.D; on the South by Wigan R.D. Standish U.D. Adlington U.D. and Horwich U.D; on the West by West Lancashire R.D. and on the East by Blackburn R.D. Withnell U.D. and Turton U.D.

The District is varied in character, and whilst there is considerable industry, some parts of the District are delightful pieces of country.

Agriculture of course predominates in the area which has its share of rich agricultural land. In addition there is of course cotton spinning and weaving, mining, the Royal Ordnance Factory in the District is an industry on its own, brickmaking is carried on in several parishes, and the old established work of basket making is still carried on in Mawdesley. There are in addition vast industries in some of the adjoining areas which provide work for residents of the District.

POPULATION.

The Estimated population (Registrar General's Figure) for mid 1951 is 27,150.

The following figures give the population since 1942 and show the variation:-

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u>1942</u> | <u>1943</u> | <u>1944</u> | <u>1945</u> | <u>1946</u> | <u>1947</u> | <u>1948</u> | <u>1949</u> | <u>1950</u> | <u>1951</u> |
| 25,900 | 24,970 | 25,510 | 24,420 | 25,430 | 26,150 | 26,910 | 27,360 | 27,510 | 27,150 |

The census figure for 1931 was 23,633

The preliminary census figure for 1951 was 27,190.

INHABITED HOUSES.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951 was 8,088

The only unoccupied houses in the District are derelict.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The Rateable Value of the District is £178,258 the sum represented by a Penny Rate is £721.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Swabs are examined at the General Hospitals serving this area and results are obtained quickly.

STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

Live Births.

| | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> |
|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Legitimate | 369 | 187 | 182 |
| Illegitimate | <u>10</u> <u>379</u> | <u>7</u> <u>194</u> | <u>3</u> <u>185</u> |
| | <u><u>389</u></u> | <u><u>281</u></u> | <u><u>267</u></u> |

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population 14.0

Birth Rate per 1,000 population for mid 1951 for 15.5
England and Wales.

Still Births.

Total. Males. Females.

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Legitimate | 11 | 5 | 6 |
| Illegitimate | <u>—</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>—</u> |
| | <u>11</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> |

The rate per 1,000 civilian population. 0.4

The Rate per 1,000 civilian population for England 0.36
and Wales.

Death Rate.

Total. Males. Females.

381 198 183

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population 14.0

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population for 12.5
England and Wales

INFANTILE DEATHS.

The Death Rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births is 32.

There were actually 12 infantile deaths in this area.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The following tables give figures for the past ten years.



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<https://archive.org/details/b2911365>

| YEAR | LIVE BIRTH RATE | | STILLBIRTH RATE (per 1,000 live and still births) | DEATH RATE | | INFANTILE DEATH RATE (per 1,000 live births) | MATERNAL DEATHS |
|------|-----------------|-------------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------|
| | Chorley R.D. | England and Wales | | Chorley R.D. | England and Wales | | |
| 1942 | 15.8 | 15.8 | 50.0 | 11.0 | 11.6 | 43 | 2 |
| 1943 | 18.3 | 16.5 | 38.0 | 12.0 | 12.1 | 52 | 2 |
| 1944 | 19.3 | 17.6 | 33.5 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 33 | 2 |
| 1945 | 15.2 | 16.1 | 42.0 | 11.9 | 11.4 | 50 | - |
| 1946 | 18.2 | 19.1 | 27.0 | 10.5 | 11.5 | 36 | 1 |
| 1947 | 20.4 | 20.5 | 27.0 | 12.3 | 12.0 | 50 | - |
| 1948 | 18.1 | 17.9 | 25.0 | 10.4 | 10.8 | 32 | - |
| 1949 | 15.9 | 16.7 | 18.0 | 12.5 | 11.7 | 32 | - |
| 1950 | 15.0 | 15.8 | 23.0 | 13.0 | 11.6 | 38 | - |
| 1951 | 14.0 | 15.5 | 28.0 | 14.0 | 12.5 | 32 | - |

| YEAR | DEATHS FROM. | | | |
|------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | CANCER (all ages) | MEASIES. (all ages) | WHOOPING COUGH. (all ages) | DIARRHOEA. (under 2 years of age) |
| 1942 | 43 | - | 2 | 3 |
| 1943 | 32 | - | - | 1 |
| 1944 | 51 | - | - | 1 |
| 1945 | 42 | - | 1 | - |
| 1946 | 38 | - | - | - |
| 1947 | 42 | - | 2 | 3 |
| 1948 | 45 | - | - | 2 |
| 1949 | 27 | - | 1 | 1 |
| 1950 | 50 | - | 1 | - |
| 1951 | 45 | - | - | 4 |

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

| CAUSE | MALES | FEMALES | TOTAL. |
|--|-------|---------|--------|
| Tuberculosis (all forms) | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Syphilitic disease | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Cancer (all forms) | 22 | 23 | 45 |
| Diabetes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system | 22 | 21 | 43 |
| Heart Diseases | 72 | 82 | 154 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | 12 | 3 | 15 |
| Influenza | 6 | 12 | 18 |
| Pneumonia | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Bronchitis | 10 | 6 | 16 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | 4 | - | 4 |
| Ulcers of Stomach | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Nephritis | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate | 6 | - | 6 |
| Congenital malformations | 3 | - | 3 |
| Other defined and ill defined diseases | 12 | 17 | 29 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| All other accidents | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Suicide | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Total | 198 | 183 | 381 |

INFECTION DISEASES.

The Isolation Hospital at Heath Charnock provides accommodation for infectious cases

The total number of cases notified during 1951 was 475, an increase of 212 on last year.

Reference to pages 5 and 7 show that the increase is due largely to the number of cases of measles.

The cases of whooping cough were slightly lower than last year, scarlet fever cases were 32 higher.

Again there was only one case of diphtheria.

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases of Food Poisoning.

Page 6 gives the number of notifiable diseases in each parish.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

Terminal Disinfection is still carried out and during the year 75 disinfections were done.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1951.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. | TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED. | | | | | | | | | | | Hospital. | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----|-------|-------|--------------|---------------------|---|----|---|---|----------------------|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Total Cases | AGE PERIODS :: YEARS. | | | | | | | | | | Total Dea- ths | Total Deaths cases in hos- pital | remo- ved to hos- pital | of perso- ns |
| | at all ages. | 0-1 | 3-5 | 10-15 | 25-45 | 65 & over | Age unk- nown | | | | | | | | |
| Smallpox | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 71 | - | 10 | 14 | 32 | 11 | 3 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 63 | - | - |
| Diphtheria (includ- ing Membranous croup) | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Paratyphoid fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles (excluding rubella) | 285 | 9 | 68 | 111 | 90 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | 83 | 3 | 27 | 25 | 25 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Pneumonia (primary and influenza) | 35 | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 14 | 6 | - | 7 | - | - | - |
| Puerperal pyrexia | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Meningococcal infection | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Non-paralytic | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute encephalitis Infective | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Post-infectious | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum- | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Malaria (Contracted in England (and Wales ((Abroad | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Any other diseases | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 475 | 12 | 105 | 153 | 118 | 14 | 13 | 8 | 16 | 6 | - | 7 | 64 | - | - |

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED
DURING THE YEAR, 1951, FROM THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS.

| TOWNSHIP | ACUTE PNEUMONIA | DIPHTHERIA | MEASLES. | SCARLET FEVER. | WHOOPING COUGH. | TOTAL. |
|------------------|--------------------|------------|----------|-------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Anderton | 4 | 1 | 20 | 3 | 6 | 33 |
| Anglezarke | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bretherton | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| Brindle | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Charnock Richard | 2 | - | 27 | 15 | 1 | 45 |
| Clayton-le-Woods | - | - | 3 | - | 7 | 10 |
| Coppull | 3 | 1 | 120 | 17 | 12 | 153 |
| Croston. | 1 | - | 18 | 7 | 6 | 32 |
| Cuerden | - | - | 1 | 4 | - | 5 |
| Eccleston | - | - | 4 | - | 14 | 18 |
| Euxton | 4 | - | 17 | 6 | 8 | 35 |
| Heapey | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 5 |
| Heath Charnock | 2 | - | 22 | 3 | 7 | 34 |
| Heskin | 1 | - | 6 | 3 | 9 | 19 |
| Houghton | 1 | - | 8 | - | 3 | 12 |
| Mawdesley | - | - | 5 | 2 | 2 | 9 |
| Rivington | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ulnes Walton | - | - | 7 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Wheelton | 2 | - | 5 | 2 | 2 | 11 |
| Whittle-le-Woods | 9 | - | 19 | 6 | 3 | 37 |
| TOTAL | 35 | 1 | 285 | 71 | 83 | 475 |

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)
NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. | YEAR. | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 |
| Smallpox | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 71 | 39 | 104 | 172 | 51 | 61 | 55 | 69 | 74 | 90 |
| Diphtheria (including membranous croup) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 24 | 13 | 31 | 47 |
| Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Paratyphoid fever. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles (excluding rubella) | 285 | 64 | 402 | 178 | 252 | 40 | 277 | 84 | 306 | 140 |
| Whooping Cough | 83 | 96 | 63 | 49 | 125 | 16 | 56 | 94 | 50 | 64 |
| Acute pneumonia (Primary and Influenza) | 35 | 20 | 54 | 13 | 21 | 11 | 14 | 19 | 34 | 16 |
| Puerperal pyrexia | - | 3 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 7 |
| Acute poliomyelitis | - | 3 | - | - | 10 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute polio-encephalitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute encephalitis lethargica | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery. | - | - | 1 | - | - | 40 | - | - | 1 | - |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Trichinellosis | - | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 6 |
| Malaria (Contracted in England and Wales) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Malaria (Abroad) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Food Poisoning | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Any other diseases | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS. | 475 | 233 | 630 | 417 | 467 | 177 | 433 | 290 | 507 | 377 |

T U B E R C U L O S I S.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1951.

| Age Periods. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|----------------|--------------|----|------------------|----|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
| | Respiratory. | | None Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| <u>Years.</u> | | | | | | | | |
| 0- | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1- | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2- | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 5- | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10- | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15- | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 20- | - | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25- | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 35- | 4 | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - |
| 45- | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55- | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65- | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 75 and upwards | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 12 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | - | - | - |
| | 13 | | 7 | | 2 | | | |

TUBERCULOSIS
AND MORTALITY DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS.

| Age Periods. | 1951 | | | 1950 | | | 1949 | | | 1948 | | | 1947 | | | 1946 | | | 1945 | | | 1944 | | | 1943 | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | New Deaths | New Cases |
| 0- | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1- | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 4 | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | 4 | - | - | - | - |
| 5- | 1 | - | 8 | - | 8 | - | 2 | - | 4 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 7 | - | 3 | - | 6 | 1 | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 10- | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | 6 | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | 9 | - | 4 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 15- | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 3 | - | 4 | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 3 | - | 5 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 20- | 3 | - | 2 | - | 1 | 4 | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | 5 | - | 7 | 1 | 4 | - | 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 25- | 2 | 1 | 5 | - | 5 | - | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 6 | - | 5 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 35- | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 45- | 2 | - | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | - | - | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| 55- | 3 | - | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65- | - | - | 4 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Age unknown | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Totals | 20 | 2 | 28 | 6 | 32 | 11 | 14 | 1 | 28 | 3 | 33 | 9 | 33 | 10 | 32 | 5 | 42 | 10 | 36 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the water supplied by the Council through its mains is obtained in bulk from Manchester Corporation, and is under constant supervision and examination by that authority.

The scheme for supplying the parishes of Brindle and Hoghton was almost completed during the year.

Further properties in these two parishes and also in the parish of Newdesley were connected to the mains and enjoyed a piped supply for the first time. The numbers were:-

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Brindle | 66 |
| Hoghton | 15 |
| Mawdesley | 6 |

In addition 98 new properties were supplied with water from the mains.

SEWERAGE.

Clayton-le-Woods, Heapey, Wheelton and Whittle-le-Woods

Work continued on the scheme throughout the year but progress was very slow, this was due in some measure to the bad ground through which the main sewer was being laid.

Coppull, Charnock Richard, Heskin, Eccleston and Croston.

The sewerage scheme embracing parts of the above mentioned parishes was commenced early in 1951 and has progressed well. This scheme will take sewers into parts of Charnock Richard and Heskin for the first time and will, when completed, replace the sewage disposal works at Coppull Eccleston and Croston and so remove entirely the gross pollution taking place at Coppull.

Brindle and Hoghton.

The scheme for sewerage part of Brindle and Hoghton was almost completed in 1951 and it should be possible to remove the small objectionable disposal plant now serving the properties near Brindle Mill in the near future.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Whilst the number of closet conversions carried out during the year was not so high as last year steady progress was made, and the number of pail closets and privy middens was reduced, there still remains a large number of closets other than water closets in the District however.

The number of closets converted to water closets was 95.

The number of conversions carried out in the various parishes is given below:-

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT IN 1951.

| Parish | Pails to W.Cs. | Privies to W.Cs. | Privies to Pails. | Totals. |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Clayton-le-Woods. | 8 | - | - | 8 |
| Coppull. | 9 | 9 | - | 18 |
| Croston. | 4 | 7 | - | 11 |
| Eccleston. | 5 | 13 | - | 18 |
| Euxton. | 13 | - | - | 13 |
| Heath Charnock. | 3 | - | - | 3 |
| Newdesley. | 8 | - | - | 8 |
| Wheelton. | 7 | - | - | 7 |
| Whittle-le-Woods | 9 | - | - | 9 |
| Total. | 66 | 29 | - | 95 |

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT SINCE 1940.

| Year(s) | Pails to W.Cs. | Privies to W.Cs. | Privies to Pails | Total. |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| 1940-1945 | 21 | 50 | 44 | 115 |
| 1946 | 25 | 15 | 4 | 44 |
| 1947 | 12 | 38 | 21 | 71 |
| 1948 | 62 | 51 | 23 | 136 |
| 1949 | 120 | 51 | 6 | 177 |
| 1950 | 101 | 29 | 7 | 137 |
| 1951 | 66 | 29 | - | 95 |
| Totals. | 407 | 263 | 105 | 775 |

SCAVENGING.

The whole area is scavenged by direct labour.

Six Karrier Bantam refuse collectors are in regular use and another is available as a spare.

As well as the collection of household refuse, the emptying of closet pails and privy middens is also carried out.

Dry refuse is disposed of at numerous tips through-out the District. The size of the area and the type of vehicles used makes centralised tipping impossible and the control of tips very difficult.

SCAVENGING Contd.

In one case refuse is being tipped into a disused mine shaft.

In two other cases it is being tipped on rough farm land and will eventually add a little cultivated land to the farms, in another case a sand pit on a farm is being filled in.

Tipping is still taking place in one parish in a submerged clay pit at the brickworks. No trouble was experienced during 1951 but such tipping is always a potential danger but no alternative site is available.

Nightsoil is collected weekly and the larger part is now disposed of by tipping into sewer manholes, final disposal taking place at the sewage disposal works.

The remainder is disposed of by lagooning and mixing with straw, ashes etc. on farms and afterwards ploughed into the land by the farmers.

At present removable wooden tanks are used for the collection of nightsoil, these get impregnated with foul liquid and in themselves are objectionable in the street, and in my opinion further consideration should be given to the acquisition of a cesspool emptier type of vehicle, which was demonstrated during 1951. The service may not prove to be cheaper but it will be better and the whole outfit will be much more hygienic.

DUSTBINS.

The provision of the simple dustbin gets more difficult. Gone is the time when, by bringing to the notice of the owner the fact that his property had a defective bin, a new one was provided.

Reports of successful appeals against notices under section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, are known to all owners and the provision of a simple dustbin now bristles with difficulties.

This situation should be remedied quickly by legislation.

During the year 11 Notices under section 75 were served and in each case the notice was complied with.

SILVER.

The demand for waste paper continued throughout the year and the prices soared. The amount collected in 1951 was not the highest recorded but the receipts were higher than that for any other year. Apart from the value of the paper considerable benefit is obtained by not having to deal with this material on the refuse tip, and I venture to say, that so long as a market is available for this waste it should be separated from the refuse and sold, even if the operation fails to show a profit.

No collection of kitchen waste is made in the Rural District.

FOOD.

Centralised slaughtering continued throughout 1951 and there was no routine inspection of fresh killed meat until at the end of the year when a new privately owned bacon factory commenced operations. The following table gives details of the inspections carried out.

FOOD. Contd.

| Carcasses Inspected and Condemned. | |
|---|-------|
| PIGS. | |
| Number killed | 123 |
| Number inspected | 123 |
| All diseases except tuberculosis. | |
| Whole carcases condemned | 2 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned. | NIL |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis. | 1.63% |
| Tuberculosis only. | |
| Whole carcases condemned. | NIL |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned. | 5 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis. | 4.06% |

Several owners of private slaughter-houses have continued to renew their licences and these premises have been used for the slaughter of pigs for self suppliers of meat.

Some pigs for self suppliers of meat are of course slaughtered at the homes of the producers and a list of persons other than licensed slaughter men who do such slaughtering has been made, animals killed by such persons are stunned before killing.

Numerous inspections of various foods were carried out during the year and some articles were found unfit for human consumption, the following list gives the articles condemned and disposed of:-

450 lbs 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. Cooked Ham.
 12 lbs 2 ozs. Luncheon Meat.
 12 ozs. Meat Loaf.
 2 lbs Salmon.
 150 lbs Red Currant Juice.
 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. Eggs.
 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Butter.
 6 lbs Jellied Veal
 4 lbs 10 ozs. Orange Juice.

MILK.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.
Regulation 20.

During November action was taken under the above Regulations in respect of a supply of milk containing tubercle bacilli.

The producer was eager to co-operate in the elimination of the danger and arrangements were made for the milk produced to be pasteurised until it was proved to be free from disease communicable to man.

At the end of the year there were 23 Registered Distributors of milk in the District.

Special Designated Milk.

The following licences were issued during the year:-

| | |
|---|----|
| Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Pasteurised | 2 |
| Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Sterilized | 15 |
| Delaer's licence to use Special Designation Tuberculin | 5 |
| Tested | |

ICE CREAM.

There was no increase in the number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream but additional premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, in every case electrical storage units were installed.

The manufacturers with one exception are in a small way, making only what they themselves retail, in one or two cases the business is not continuous even in summer, being confined to week-end trade.

The Council decided not to enforce the fitting of recording thermometers under the Heat Treatment Regulations.

A number of samples of ice cream were taken during the summer with the following results:-

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Number of Samples taken | 24 |
| Number in Category 1 | 8 |
| Number in Category 2 | 3 |
| Number in Category 3 | 7 |
| Number in Category 4 | 6 |

The samples in Categories 1 and 2 are considered to be satisfactory.

The number of premises on the Register at the end of the year was:-

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale | 10 |
| Registered for the Storage and Sale only. | 48 |
| Total. | 58 |
| | 58 |

The total on the register at the end of the last three years were:-

| 1948 | 1949 | 1950 |
|------|------|------|
| 20 | 35 | 47 |

SCHOOLS.

The School Medical Services are administered by the County Council and separate reports are issued.

There are 32 Schools in the area including the Rivington and Blackrod Grammar School.

Water Supply.

At the end of the year 31 of the 32 Schools in the area had a piped supply of water from the Council's mains.

Sanitary Accommodation.

At the end of 1951 the old conveniences at St. Bedes School, Clayton-le-Woods were demolished having been replaced with water closets drained to a private disposal plant.

A year ago half the schools were provided with water closets, and half with pail closets, the position now is that 17 have water closets and 15 pail closets.

Sanitary Accommodation Contd.

Plans for improvements at other schools are in being, but when the work will be carried out it is impossible to say.

CAMPING.

I think it is fair to say that there was little trouble in 1951 with regard to camping or the use of caravans.

The number of applications for genuine campers are few, the people who want individual van licences are mostly those who wish to use the vans as a substitute for a house, and any inquiries about sites would appear to be with a view to regular occupation and regular rent.

During the year 12 licences for individual vans were granted.

There are a number of vans in the area which are exempt and a few vans which have been in occupation for many years and not licenced.

There were also a few vans used occasionally, these were not licensed.

The position at the end of the year was:-

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of individual licensed vans | 10. |
| Number of vans exempt | 10. |
| Number of unlicensed vans used as permanent dwellings. | 4 |
| Number of unlicensed vans used only occasionally. | 4 |

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Whilst there are 20 factory chimneys in the area none were the subject of complaint.

No action was taken.

HOUSING.

The provision of new houses continued throughout the year. The number erected was 98, of these 84 were built by the Local Authority and 14 by other persons.

The total number of new houses built since the war by the Local Authority, including 50 temporary bungalows is 615.

There is still an acute shortage of houses, that is, there are not yet sufficient houses to allow one for every family that requires it. Further, people are house conscious and those who were once satisfied to have a house of sorts in many cases now want a good house. In addition there are many hundreds of houses in this area in need of replacement. The provision of good houses for all who need them, therefore, remains a task of primary importance.

During the year it was necessary to take action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of 2 houses.

One tenant was rehoused in a new Council house and the other in an old cottage by arrangement, the two condemned cottages were demolished.

The total number of houses dealt with since the war is 11.

SHOPS.

Shop inspection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors' on behalf of the County Council.

The majority of shops are small, a considerable number being house shops run by the occupier and his family.

The number of inspections made in 1951 was 177.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

A considerable amount of work was once again performed under the provisions of the Public Health Act.

221 nuisance were abated. In some cases these comprised several nuisances at the same house.

The number of informal notices served was 189.
The number of Statutory Notices served was 35.
In addition 13 Notices were carried over from
the previous year
34 Statutory Notices were complied with.

THE INSPECTION.

The total number of inspections carried out during the year was 2,405.

INTERIOR REGULATIONS.

67 Licences were issued during the year, this is an increase of 5 over last year.

RODENT CONTROL.

Some work was performed under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, during the year, but routine inspection of all premises in the area was not attempted although that duty is now laid upon the Local Authority.

Complaints received were not numerous.

The whole of the Council's properties were regularly inspected and any necessary treatment carried out.

Co-operation with the County Agricultural Executive Committee was maintained.

RODENT CONTROL. Contd.

The following table summarises the work done during the year.

| | TYPE OF PROPERTY. | | | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| | Local Authority. | Dwelling Houses. | Agricultural | All others (including Business & Industrial) | Total. |
| I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) | 20 | 7040 | 675 | 440 | 8175 |
| II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1951 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise (Notes 1, 2 and 3.) | (a) - (b) 52 | 12 98 | 3 1 | 5 5 | 20 156 |
| III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3) | Major 4 Minor 18 | - 12 | - 3 | - 5 | 4 38 |
| IV. Number of properties (Under III) found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| V. Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3) | 22 | 9 | - | 4 | 35 |
| VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:- (1) Treatment. (2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| TOTAL. | - | - | - | - | - |

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The following table summarises the work done in connection with factories during the year.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises | Number on Register. | Number of Inspections. | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted. |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 13 | 6 | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 77 | 32 | 2 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises.) | 10 | 10 | - | - |
| TOTAL | 100 | 48 | 2 | - |

2. Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars. | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|---|---|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 2 | 2 | - | 2 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work.) | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 2 | 2 | - | 2 |

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1947.

It was found necessary during 1951 to take action under the above Act in the case of an old lady over 80 years of age, living alone, incapable of caring adequately for herself and not in receipt of care and attention from others. The co-operation of the Officers of the No. 4 Health Committee was willingly given and suitable accommodation was found for the old lady.

It was necessary for application to be made for extension of the original order granted by the Court on two occasions.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. R. [initials]

Medical Officer of Health.

